

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

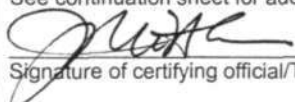
historic name Gobbler Hill
other names K-401; Stephens Farm

2. Location

street & number 10121 Fairlee Road n/a not for publication
city or town Chestertown X vicinity
state Maryland code MD county Kent code 029 zip code 21620

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).


Signature of certifying official/Title

11-9-09
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments).

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- ☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ Determined not eligible for the National Register.
☐ removed from the National Register.
☐ other (explain): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Gobbler Hill; K-401

Name of Property

Kent County, Maryland

County and State

5. Classification**Ownership of Property**

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing

Noncontributing

1

3

buildings

sites

structures

objects

1

3

Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use**Historic Functions**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Domestic: Secondary Structure

Agriculture/Subsistence: Agricultural Outbuilding

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: Single Dwelling

Domestic: Secondary Structure

Agriculture/Subsistence: Agricultural Outbuilding

7. Description**Architectural Classification**

(Enter categories from instructions)

Mid-19th Century/Greek Revival**Materials**

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation

Brick

walls

Wood: Weatherboard

roof

Metal

other

Wood

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

8. Statement of Significance**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- ☐ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets)

Area of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1858 - 1890

Significant Dates

1858

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References**Bibliography**

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets)

Previous documentation on files (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository: _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Gobbler Hill; K-401

Name of Property

Kent County, Maryland

County and State

Section 7 Page 1

Description Summary:

The house known as Gobbler Hill is located at the crossroads of Maryland Route 298 and Route 514 on one of the highest points in Kent County, Maryland. It faces west with a commanding view of the village of Melitota and the surrounding landscape. The house is sited in a landscaped yard with large shade trees within a larger setting of agricultural fields. Built in 1858, the central-hall-plan frame house is constructed on a foundation of local fieldstone and brick. It is five bays wide, two bays deep and two stories tall. It has a shallow hip roof that is surmounted by a tall cupola [belvedere]. On the front of the house is a full width porch, a recent [1988] reconstruction whose design was prepared utilizing historic photographs and archeological evidence. Behind the main block is a recent [1989] two story frame service wing that creates a T plan.

General Description:

The cornice is enriched with large curved eave brackets and turned acorn pendants at the corners. There is a robust cyma reversa molding at the roof edge as well as a built-in gutter system. Full-height pilasters with Doric capitals are present on all four corners of the main house. Pilasters rest on copper-capped brick piers that are integrated into the foundation.

The same cornice detailing, but at a smaller scale, appears on the hipped roof of the porch and cupola. The cupola roof is supported by eight square columns in the simple vernacular Doric style. The cupola has no exterior walls, windows or cresting but does have a balustrade that matches that of the front porch.

The full-width, five bay front porch has six Doric columns with large cyma recta capitals and two pilasters located at each porch-main house junction. The classic entablature is represented at the column/pilaster and architrave junctions. The porch has cyma reversa molding and built-in gutters as well as eave brackets and turned acorns along the cornice. There is a sawn open-fret balustrade between columns at bays 1, 2, 4, and 5 as well as between end columns and pilasters. The porch was reconstructed in 1988; its design is an exact copy of an original porch shown in 19th-century photographs, and its size and location were confirmed by archeological evidence.

The main entry is a Classical-style enframingent displaying two-panel double doors, a four-pane transom light with molded transom bar, and sidelight assemblies with bolection molded lower panels.

The centrality of the building's organization is reinforced by the location of a tripartite window in the central bay on the second floor, with three-over-three sash sidelights flanking a six-over-six window. Elsewhere, the windows are quite large and have six-over-six sash with slender, Gothic-bead-shaped muntins. The exterior

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window trim consists of a complex combination of large bold cyma recta moldings alternating with smaller ovolo moldings. Windows are located in each exposed bay of the main house.

The perimeter of the house has a twelve inch skirt topped with a copper clad drip edge that starts at the top of the foundation. Pine weatherboard siding runs from the skirt to the lower edge of the frieze board, where it is enriched with the same bold cyma recta molding that makes up part of the window enframingent.

The house has interior end chimneys with short stepped brick stacks. The building rests on a brick and stone foundation. Three-light basement windows are symmetrically located below facade windows and are protected by three horizontal wooden bars.

The main block of the house retains an exceptionally high degree of integrity, and has recently benefited from a comprehensive and well-researched campaign of rehabilitation and restoration. Changes to the building include the removal of a previously altered small L-plan service wing and the addition of a new larger T wing [see attached sketches of floor plan pre/post alteration]. This wing, designed in 1989 by local historic preservation architect Marsha Fritz, was guided by the Secretary of the Interior's Standards which call for new additions to be compatible with, yet differentiated from, the historic construction. To achieve consistency with these Standards, details inspired by the original architecture were simplified and scaled-down in the addition. Examples include cornices with slightly smaller cyma recta moldings, eaves without brackets and smaller frieze board. The skirt continues from the main house to the addition, but the weatherboard siding terminates into simple corner boards rather than pilasters. Six-paned, wood, true-divided light windows with plain enframements symmetrically placed around the addition clearly show the similarity to the main house windows but at the same time reveal the contrast of new vs. original.

Inside, Gobbler Hill has spacious rooms which retain fine mid-19th century woodwork. Window and door trim is a complex combination of contrasting moldings including cyma recta, ovolo and cove. The baseboards in the main house are 8.5" in height including the bold Grecian ovolo and bevel cap. Four-panel doors with original hardware are found throughout the house.

The major stair is large in scale. The walnut newel has a carved octagonal shaft and is similar to a newel advertised by George O. Stevens, a millwork company in Baltimore. The balusters are turned oak, also with an octagonal shaft. There are also foliated step end brackets.

The mantel in the north room, first floor is a marbleized slate in a Greek Revival style. The south room also has a marbleized slate mantel, simpler in design. On the second floor, the decorative detailing is simpler and includes a wooden mantel is wooden with curved shelf and chamfered pilasters with lamb's tongue stops. Behind the three-part central window is a small room that has a stair to the belvedere.

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Gobbler Hill; K-401

Name of Property

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The interior of the addition includes a modern kitchen, family room, bathrooms and bedrooms. All plumbing and mechanical improvements were situated within the 1989 addition, for the express purpose of preserving the historic fabric of the main block.

Along with the house, three outbuildings are located on the property, none of which contributes to the significance of the resource. These include a small square frame structure constructed in the late 20th century to house electrical and mechanical equipment, an extensively reconstructed hip-roofed pump house of stone and frame construction, and a mid-20th century cinderblock equipment shed.

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Summary Statement of Significance:

The house known as Gobbler Hill, located in Kent County, Maryland at the crossroads of Maryland Route 298 and Route 514 in Melitota, formerly known as Willis' Crossroads, is architecturally significant under Criterion C. Constructed in 1858 for William W. Stephens, this rural building represents an excellent example of the transition in architecture from the late Greek Revival to early Italianate style. The Greek Revival is represented in the two-story, five bay wide, two bay deep, center-passage-plan building with its symmetrical façade and shallow hipped roof. Additional Classical patterns include square Doric columns and pilasters, rich entablatures, large cyma reversa roof edge moldings as well as symmetrical windows with six over six sash. Early Italianate influences include deep soffits with large curved brackets and turned acorn pendants, rectangular belvedere with hipped roof, bracketed soffits, acorn pendants and fret sawn balustrade and a one story, full width, hipped-roof porch with bracketed soffits, acorn pendants and sawn fret balustrade. In Kent County, several examples of mid to late Italianate houses can be seen, such as Captain James Taylor's House on Water Street in Chestertown and Morton Hall in Sassafras. However, only Brampton [NR, near Fairlee] and Gobbler Hill represent this rare transitional type. William W. Stephens, a prominent local farmer, was considered one of Kent County's most important citizens. His wife Maggie and their four children lived on the property from the time of its construction in 1858 until the house was sold in 1890. Mr. Stephens, founder and president of the Kent County Agricultural Association, held the first County Fair on the grounds of his farm which was originally about 300 acres. Over the years, subdivision has reduced the property associated with the house to the current 65 acres.

The period of significance, 1858-1890, begins with the construction date of the house and ends with William Stephens' retirement from farming. The property was sold out of the Stephens family shortly thereafter.

Resource History and Historic Context:

William W. Stephens was born in 1819 to Thomas and Mary Stephens of Fairlee, Maryland, one of three children. In 1846, at the age of 27, he married Jane C.S. Gamble of Worton, Maryland, granddaughter of Robert S. Gamble. Robert S. Gamble had inherited a 300 acre farm from his father Darius Gamble, who acquired his holdings between 1808 and 1811. This farm included all of the land between Worton Creek [also known as Coney Warren] and Corey Farm [today this would include Gobbler Hill, the village of Melitota and all of the land west of Route 298 between Gobbler Hill and Corey Farm]. Upon his death in 1851, Robert S. Gamble willed the entire farm to his granddaughter Jane. In the 1852 tax assessment of Kent County, William W. Stephens is listed as owner of 278 acres of "Coney Warren" with "*Frame House in good repair formerly Jane Gamble.*"

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Unfortunately, in 1853, at 21 years of age, Jane C.S. Gamble died of tuberculosis. In addition to her husband William, she left behind two small children, Marion, aged 5, and Lydia, 3. Jane bequeathed the farm, in trust, to her two children; however, in 1858 William married Margaret A. Beck, and they together purchased the trust in 1860. The house was most likely built by William and Margaret in 1858 as an improvement to the one listed on the 1852 tax assessment. The girls, Marion and Lydia, moved into the new house and soon William and Margaret had their own children; William B. who was born in 1860 and Estella who was born in 1867. Margaret and Estella inscribed their names in Gobbler Hill's entryway sidelight glass.

William W. Stephens is listed on the 1850 - 1880 censuses as a farmer. His leadership talents were clearly demonstrated through his love of farming. Mr. Stephens was a founder and president of the Kent County Agricultural Association, one of Maryland's first farmer advocacy groups and most likely a precursor to the many modern agricultural producer groups. He was also an avid horseman. His horses were well known throughout the county and state. The sale of one of his horses, "White Mountain," to a Baltimorean for \$1800 was noted in the Kent County News in 1871. His love for horses impelled Mr. Stephens to organize Kent's annual "Fair," where horse racing was the main event. The Kent Fair was widely viewed as the most prominent in the State and for many years these annual races were held in Worton Station, but the first one, in the 1870s, was held on the Stephens' farm in Melitota.

William Stephens was one of the most popular men Kent County has ever known. He was considered big-hearted, generous, neighborly, kind and warm. Most of these characteristics were on display whenever he and his wife Maggie were entertaining guests in their home. Tradition holds that the name "Gobbler Hill" was used to describe the Stephens' home because their genuine and generous hospitality was always on display.

In 1890, at the age of 70, William Stephens retired from farming and moved with his wife Maggie to Chestertown and subsequently to Baltimore where he died in 1895. He is interred with his first wife in Saint Paul's Cemetery in Chestertown. Following his death, his wife was forced to sell the farm at public auction. At the sale, the farm was purchased by Jennie B. Rivers of Baltimore. She lived on the farm until 1922 when she died intestate with the estate then descending to her husband and siblings.

Jennie Rivers' widower died in 1936, and he willed his half of the estate [about 200 acres] to the Freemasons, who sold the farm to Carroll Dulin in 1941. Upon purchasing the farm, the Dulins "modernized" the house by removing part of the rear service wing and replacing the full width front porch with a one bay structure. Carroll Dulin and his family lived in the house and farmed the property until his death in 1969, when the property descended to his children. His son Charles and his wife Miriam inherited the house and about 100 acres. In 1987, the Dulins sold the property, now about 65 acres, to its current owners Paul and Sandra Terpeluk.

The Terpeluks replaced the previously altered L wing with a new T wing. The wing was designed by local historic preservation architect Marsha Fritz, and although it is large in scale, it successfully subordinates its design features to the main main block. Additionally, all utilities were placed in the new service wing in order

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to limit the disruption of historic fabric. The original front porch was also reconstructed utilizing photographic and archeological evidence.

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Name of Property

Kent County, Maryland

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Major Bibliographical References:

Primary Sources

Kent County Land Records, Kent County Courthouse, Chestertown, Maryland, Liber JKH 2, folio 21.

Kent County Land Records, Kent County Courthouse, Chestertown, Maryland, Liber JFG 2, folio 262.

Kent County Land Records, Kent County Courthouse, Chestertown, Maryland, Liber SB 2, folio 202.

Kent County Land Records, Kent County Courthouse, Chestertown, Maryland, Liber JTD 5, folio 234.

Kent County Land Records, Kent County Courthouse, Chestertown, Maryland, Liber RAS 28, folio 32.

Kent County Tax Records, Kent County Courthouse, Chestertown, Maryland, 1852

Kent News, "Death of William W. Stephens," Chestertown, Maryland: 21 December 1895.

Martenet, S.J. *Martenet's Map of Kent County*, Maryland, Baltimore: 1860.

1850, 1860, 1870 Census Index, Kent County Maryland, Kent County Court House, Chestertown, Maryland.

Secondary Sources

Bourne, Michael. 1998. *Historic Houses of Kent County*. Chestertown: The Historical Society of Kent County.

Maryland Historical Trust, *Inventory Form For State Historic Sites Survey*, K-401 1980, Kent County Courthouse, Chestertown, Maryland.

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Gobbler Hill; K-401

Name of Property

Kent County, Maryland

County and State

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Geographical Data

UTM References:

Hanesville, MD USGS quad

A: 18-401104-4345838

B: 18-401525-4345770

C: 18-401442-4345285

D: 18-401150-4345187

E: 18-400944-4345217

Verbal Boundary Description:

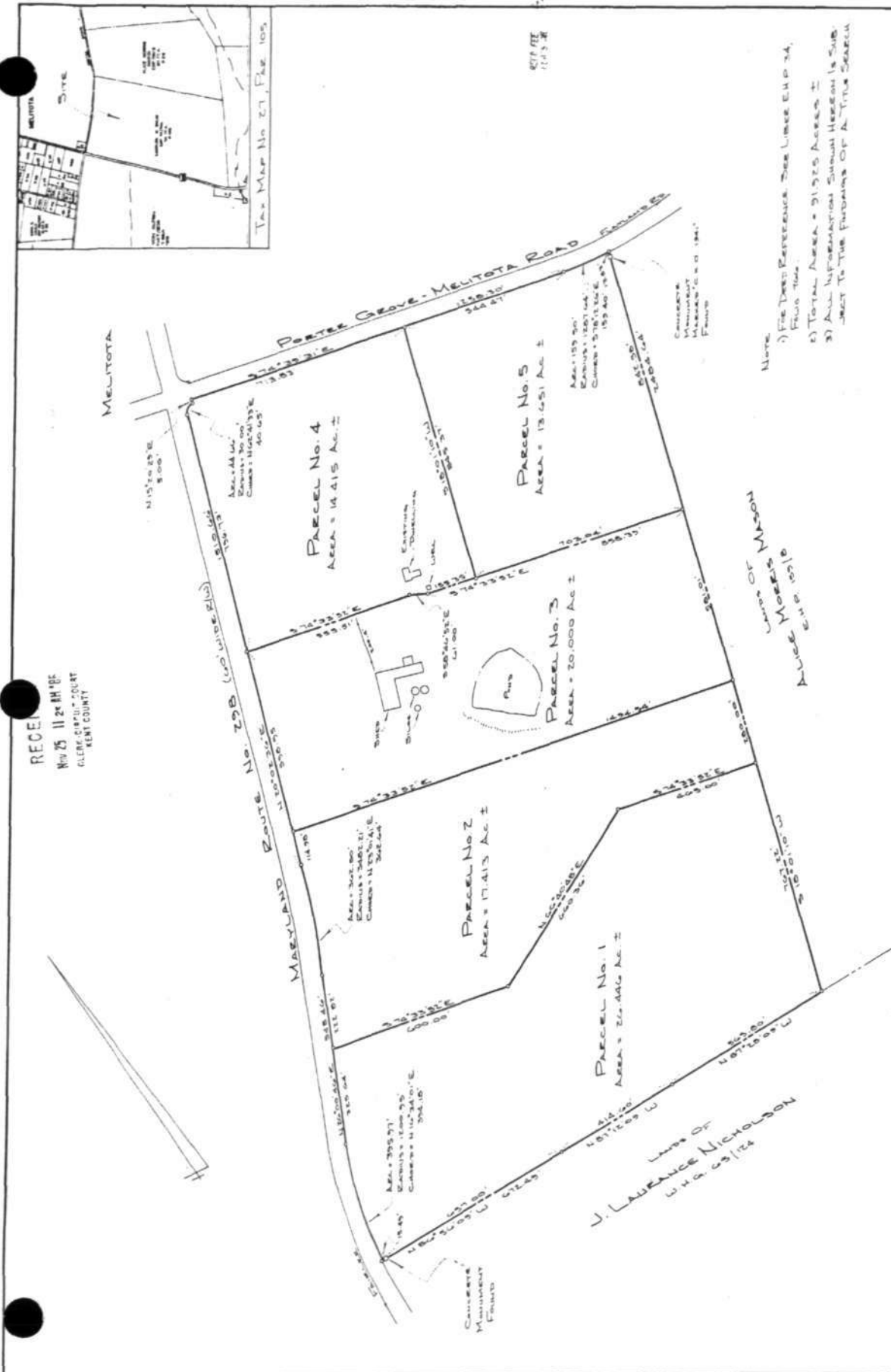
The nominated property is shown as Parcel 915, Lots 2, 3, 4, and 5 on Kent County Assessment Map 27. It also corresponds to Parcels 2, 3, 4, and 5 on a plat entitled "Minor Subdivision of the Lands of Charles W. Dulin," filed among the Land Records of Kent County in Liber EHP 2, folio 198 on November 25, 1986.

Boundary Justification:

The nominated property, 65 acres, comprises the remnant of the acreage historically associated with the resource. The boundary includes the main house, fields, meadows, and forests that have historically been part of Gobbler Hill and that retain integrity.

Gobbler Hill, Kent County, Maryland
Nominated property comprises Parcels 2, 3, 4, and 5

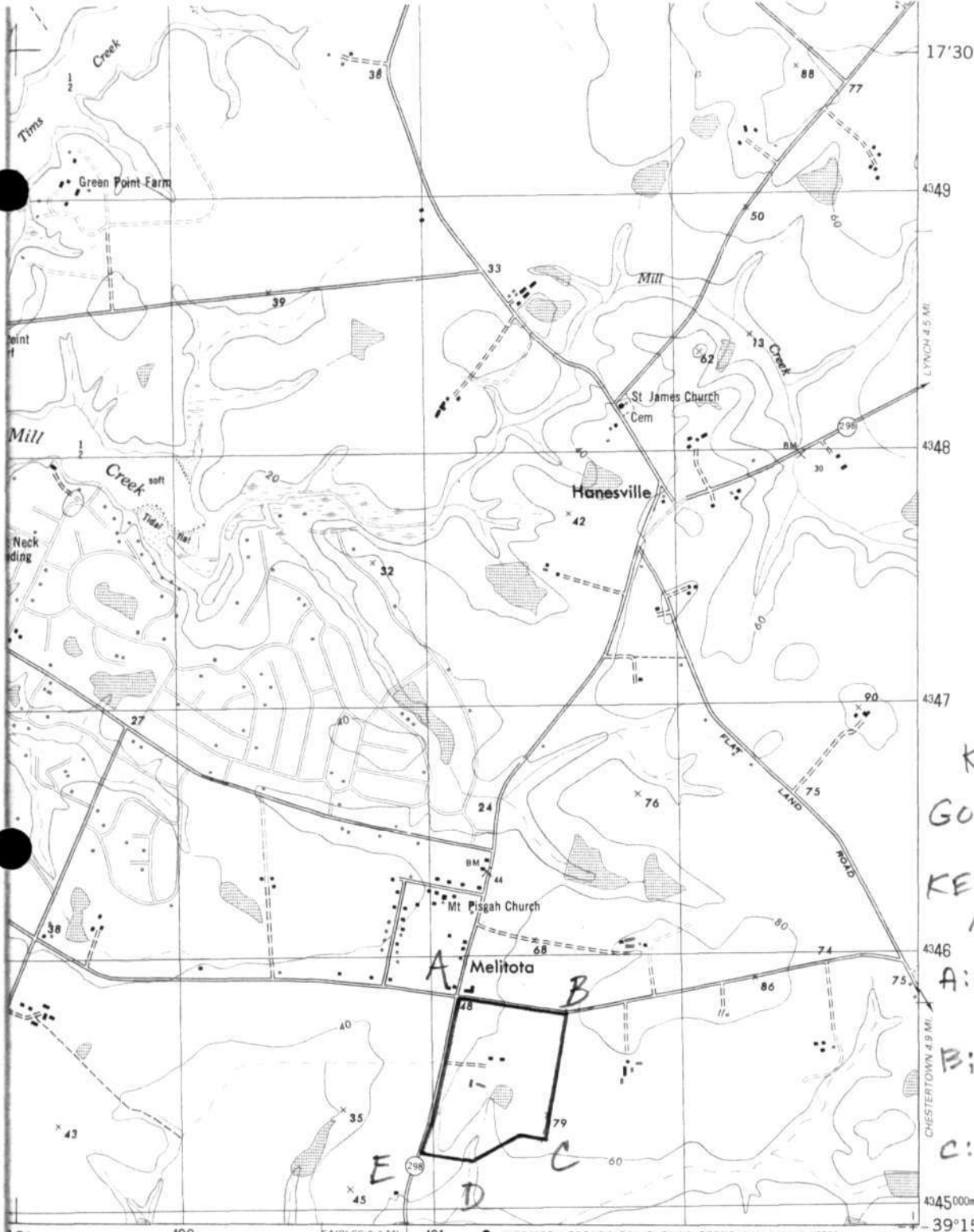
K-401



APPROVED 11-24-86 <i>Charles C. Wicks</i> Date <i>Kent County Director of Planning</i> 11-24-86 <i>John L. Lusk</i> Date <i>Kent County Health Officer</i>		MCRONE ENGINEERS ■ PLANNERS ■ SURVEYORS ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND		MINOR SUBDIVISION OF THE LANDS OF CHARLES W. DULIN 6TH ELECTION DISTRICT, KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND		SHEET NO. FILE NO.
DATE 11-24-86 JOB NO. 11-24-86 DRAWN BY <i>John Lusk</i> CHECKED BY <i>John Lusk</i> APPROVED <i>John Lusk</i> DATE 11-24-86 REVISION		SCALE 1" = 200' DRAWN BY <i>John Lusk</i> CHECKED BY <i>John Lusk</i> APPROVED <i>John Lusk</i> DATE 11-24-86 REVISION		CENTREVILLE - CHRISTIANSBURG - DENVER - EASTON - LEONARDTOWN - PRICE FREEDOM		SHEET NO. FILE NO.

Filed 11/25/86 in Plot Book EHP 24 p. 74





K-401
GOBBLER HILL
KENT COUNTY
MARYLAND
A: 18-401104-
4345838
B: 18-401525-
4345770
C: 18-401442-
4345285
D: 18-401150-
4345187
E: 18-400944-
4345217

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Primary highway,
hard surface | Light-duty road, hard or
improved surface |
| Secondary highway,
hard surface | Unimproved road |
| ○ Interstate Route | ○ U. S. Route ○ State Route |



HANESVILLE, MD.
39076-C2-TF-024

1948
PHOTOREVISED 1985
DMA 5762 I SW - SERIES V833



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410-778-4928

K-401

Gobbler Hill
St. County, MD

96

ler Campbell

P.O. Box 373

Westertown, MD 21620

Main house, south facade

#1

K-401

Gobbler Hill



401

BLER Hill
IT COUNTY, MD

6
er (Campbell
Box 373
ster town, MD 21620

ain house, west facade

2

K-401

Blaber Hill

K-401

Stephens Farm
Melitota
c.1860

This handsome Italianate farmhouse sits atop the long slope southeast of the Melitota crossroads. Probably built about 1860 for William Stephens and his second wife Margaret, the farm had been inherited by his first wife, Jane Gamble from her grandfather, Darius Gamble.¹ In the 1852 Tax Assessment, William W. Stephens is listed as owner of 278 acres of "Coney Warren" with "Frame House in good repair formerly Jane Gamble."² Jane bequeathed the farm in trust to her children, but William and Margaret purchased it from the trust in 1860 and replaced the house listed on the assessment.³ The Stephens apparently went overboard on their dreamhouse and lost it in 1881 to the creditor.⁴ Between 1896 and 1941, the farm was owned by Jennie and Arthur Rivers.⁵ In 1941, it was purchased by Carroll and Hazel Dulin,⁶ in whose family it remained for three generations before being sold to the present owners.

The central hall plan house is five bays wide, two bays deep and two stories tall. Its roof is a shallow hip that terminates in a tall roofed belvedere, like 201 Front Street in Chestertown. Behind the house there is a period wing which had been larger but was modified by the Dulins after 1941. The present owner has installed a new wing in its place. The centrality of the facade is emphasized by the three-part door and second story window as well as the placement of the columns on the belvedere. During the Dulin occupancy, the porch had been reduced to the central bay, but it originally had full length, to which it has been restored.

1. Land Records, Lib. JKH 2, fol. 21.

K-401

2

2. 1852 Tax Assessment.
3. Ibid No. 1.
4. Land Records, Lib. SB 2, fol. 202.
5. Land Records, Lib. JTD 5, fol. 234.
6. Land Records, Lib. RAS 28, fol. 32.

STEPHENS FARM
Melitota, Maryland
(ca 1865-70)

K-401

The Dulin House is located on one of the highest points in Kent County; it faces west, overlooking the village of Melitota and the surrounding fields. The house is sited in a grassy yard, shaded by large trees. The central-hall-plan house is five bays wide, two bays deep and two stories tall. Its roof is a shallow hip that is surmounted by a tall cupula. Behind the main house is a two-story ell with a one-story shed addition.

The Dulin residence is an example of a popular house type of the years immediately following the Civil War. These buildings are rectangular in form; they have shallow hipped roofs with cupula's or widows walks, and central entries. Only a few of these structures remain in Kent County. Of these Morton Hall (K-126) and 201 Front Street, Chestertown (K-7) are very elaborate examples. This house was built by William W. and Margaret A.T. Stephens about 1865-70.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

K - 401

MAGI # 1504015535

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

STEPHENS FARM (preferred)

AND/OR COMMON

Dulin House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Southwest corner of Rt. 298 and
Melitota Road

CITY, TOWN

Melitota

STATE

Maryland

1st

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

Kent

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Miriam & Charles W. Dulin

Telephone #: 301-778-0917

STREET & NUMBER

RD #4 Box 489

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21620

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Kent County Court House

Liber #: EHP 34

Folio #: 766

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

K-401

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED wing

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Dulin House is located on one of the highest points in Kent County; it faces west, overlooking the village of Melitota and the surrounding fields. The house is sited in a grassy yard, shaded by large trees.

The central-hall-plan house is five bays wide, two bays deep and two stories tall. Its roof is a shallow hip that is surmounted by a tall cupula. Behind the main house is a two-story ell with a one-story shed addition.

The cornice of both the main house and wing are enriched with curved brackets and acorn pendants at the corners. There is a cyma recta molding at the roof edge and built in gutters. The same cornice detailing, but at a smaller scale, is used on the hipped roof of the cupula. This latter roof is supported by 8 square columns. The cupula has no exterior walls, windows or cresting.

There was originally a wide front porch that extended across three bays of the house front. It has been rebuilt to a one-bay entrance porch with square columns and fencing on the flat roof. Some of the original porch bracketts and the acorn corner pendants were reused.

The centrality of the building organization is reinforced by the location of three over three sash side-lights on either side of the middle window on the second floor. Elsewhere the windows are quite large and have 6 over 6 sash with slender, Gothic-bead-shaped muntius. The window trim is illustrated below. Windows are located in each exposed bay on the main house. In the wing the windows also have 6 over 6 sash but are smaller. On the north and south facades they have been altered.

The main entry has two-panel double doors; a four-pane transom light with molded transom bar, and sidelight assemblies with bolecion molded lower panels.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

K-40

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES ca 1865-70

BUILDER/ARCHITECT William & Margaret Stephens

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dulin residence is an example of a popular house of the years immediately following the Civil War. These buildings are rectangular in form; they have shallow hipped roofs with cupula's or widows walks, and central entries. Only a few of these structures remain in Kent County. * Of these Morton Hall (K-126) and 201 Front Street, Chestertown (K-7) are very elaborate examples. The Dulin House is a simple building in the same late Greek Revival Style. The house was built by William W. and Margaret A.T. Stephens.

* Several of these houses were also built near Middleton, Delaware.

K-401

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kent County Land Records, Kent County Court House, Chestertown, Maryland
 Waite, Diana, Architectural Elements, (Princeton: The Dyne Press, ca 1975.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	
Marsha L. Fritz, Survey Consultant	
ORGANIZATION	DATE
Kent County Planning Commission	778-4600, ext.67
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
Court House	
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Chestertown, Maryland	

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401
 (301) 267-1438

The house has short brick chimneys enclosed in the end walls and a brick foundation. Three-light basement windows are located beneath other windows and are protected by three horizontal wooden bars.

Changes in the structure include installation of aluminum storm windows and asbestos-shingle siding. The rear wing was formerly longer, but was altered by Carroll K. and Hazel B. Dulin, parents of the present owners.

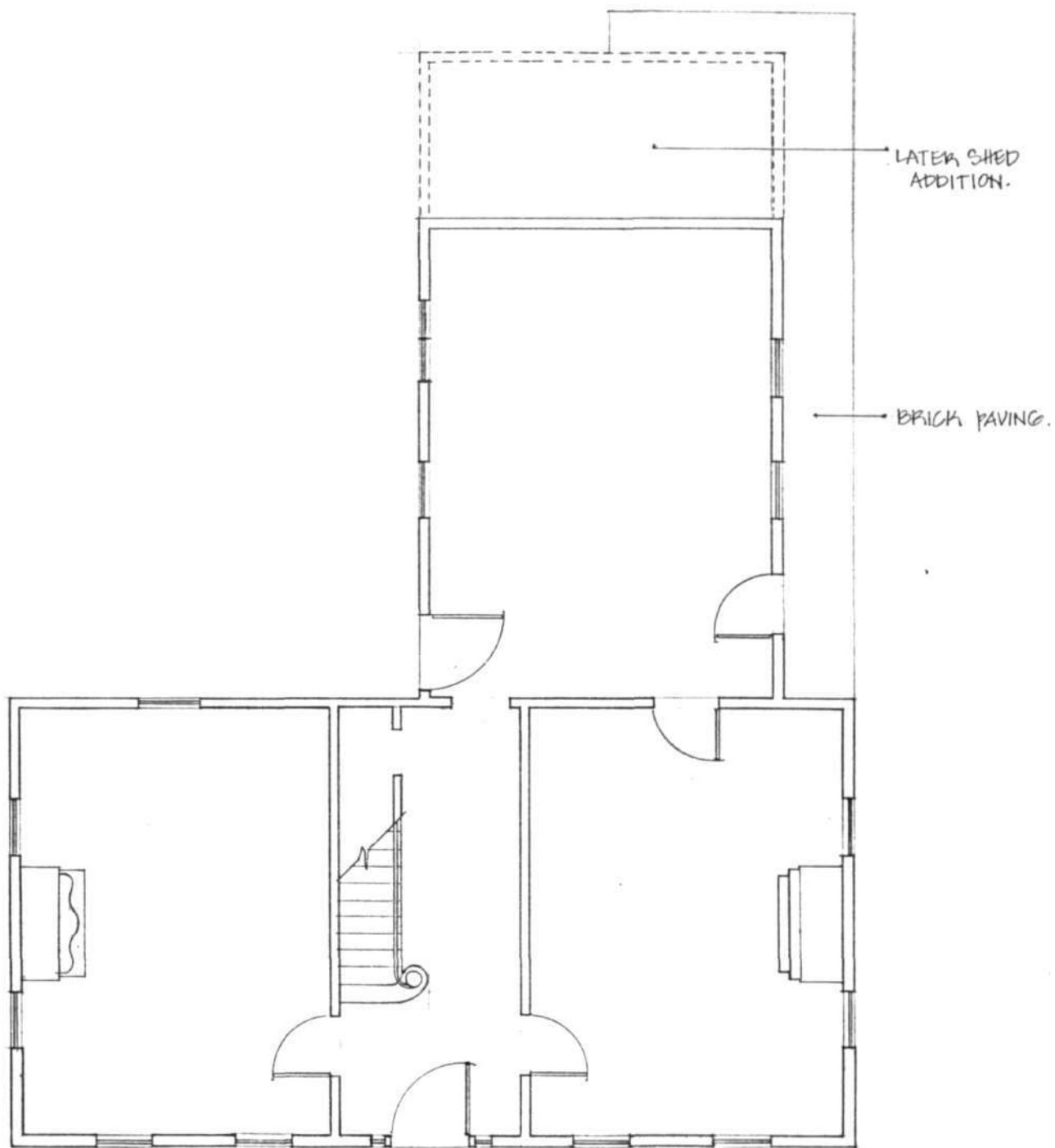
Inside, the Dulin house has graceful, spacious rooms and examples of the best of mid-19th century woodwork. A profile of the window and door trim used in the major downstairs rooms and the stair hall is drawn below. The baseboards in these areas are 8½" in height including the bold Grecian ovolo and bevel cap. Four panel door panels are also illustrated.

The major stair is large in scale and generous. The walnut newel has carved octagonal shaft and is similiar to the a newel advertised by George O. Stevens, a millwork company in Baltimore. The balusters are turned oak, also with an octagonal shaft. There are also foliated step brackets.

The mantle in the north room, first floor, is marbelized slate in a "Grecian" style. In the south room, a simple marbelized slate mantle is used. On the second floor, the detailing is simpler and the mantles are wooden with curved shelves and chamfered pilasters with lamb's tongue stops.

Behind the three-part central window is a small room and the enclosed stair to the cupula.

The interior of the wing and the first floor has been modified for a modern kitchen.



STEPHENS FARM (K-401) MELITOTA, MARYLAND.
SCALE: 1/8" = 10"

DULIN HOUSE (K-401)
Chain of Title

Land Records of
Kent County

Transaction

EHP 34
766

TO: Charles W. & Miriam A. Dulin
FROM: Elroy G. Boyer, Trustee
DATE: April 28, 1970

94.77 acres of land deeded to Charles &
Miriam after death of Carroll in Sept. 10, 1969.

WHG 62
266

TO: Carroll K. Dulin, Widower & Charles W. &
Miriam A. Dulin, joint tenants
FROM: Elroy G. Boyer, Trustee
DATE: October 20, 1959

RAS 28
32

TO: Carroll K. & Hazel B. Dulin
FROM: Grand Lodge of Ancient Free & Accepted Masons
of Maryland, etal
DATE: September 2, 1941

381.85 acres on both side of the Rt. 298.
Survey plat is shown; the "Stephens Farm" included
the lands to the Corey Farm & south to the stream &
Fish Pond. Jennie B. Rivers died intestate on
Oct. 22, 1922 & the lands descended to her husband,
syblings, nieces, & nephews. When her husband,
Arthur D. Rivers died, he willed his half to the
Masons.

JTD 5
234

TO: Jennie B. Rivers
FROM: Charles T. Westcott, Attny.
DATE: May 19, 1897

The Stephens had defaulted on a mortgage to
the Fire Insurance Company of Kent County made in
1881 and the land was sold in a public sale in 1896
for \$9,338.00; 250 acres near Melitota (formerly
Willis' crossroads) were in this parcel. Also sold
were two other parcels making up 322 acres. The
first parcel included the house.

Land Records of
Kent CountyTransaction

SB 2
202
(mortgage)

TO: Mutual Fire Insurance Co. of Kent Co. Md.
FROM: William W. & Margaret A.T. Stephens
DATE: June 29, 1881
(Margaret is William's second wife.)

The Stephens borrowed \$4,500 from the company and the farm is being taken in lieu of payment. It contained the 250 acres noted above and other parcels. If the debt was paid this deed was to be void. The Stephens had tenancy.

JKH 2
21

TO: William W. & Margaret A.T. Stephens
FROM: James B. Ricaud, Trustee
DATE: May 7, 1860

William W. Stephens is acquiring this land from a trustee for his own under-age daughters for \$6,500.00 in a public sale in 1854. He paid \$2,000.00 then asked the court to allow him to grant a mortgage for the rest, payable when each girl reached 21.

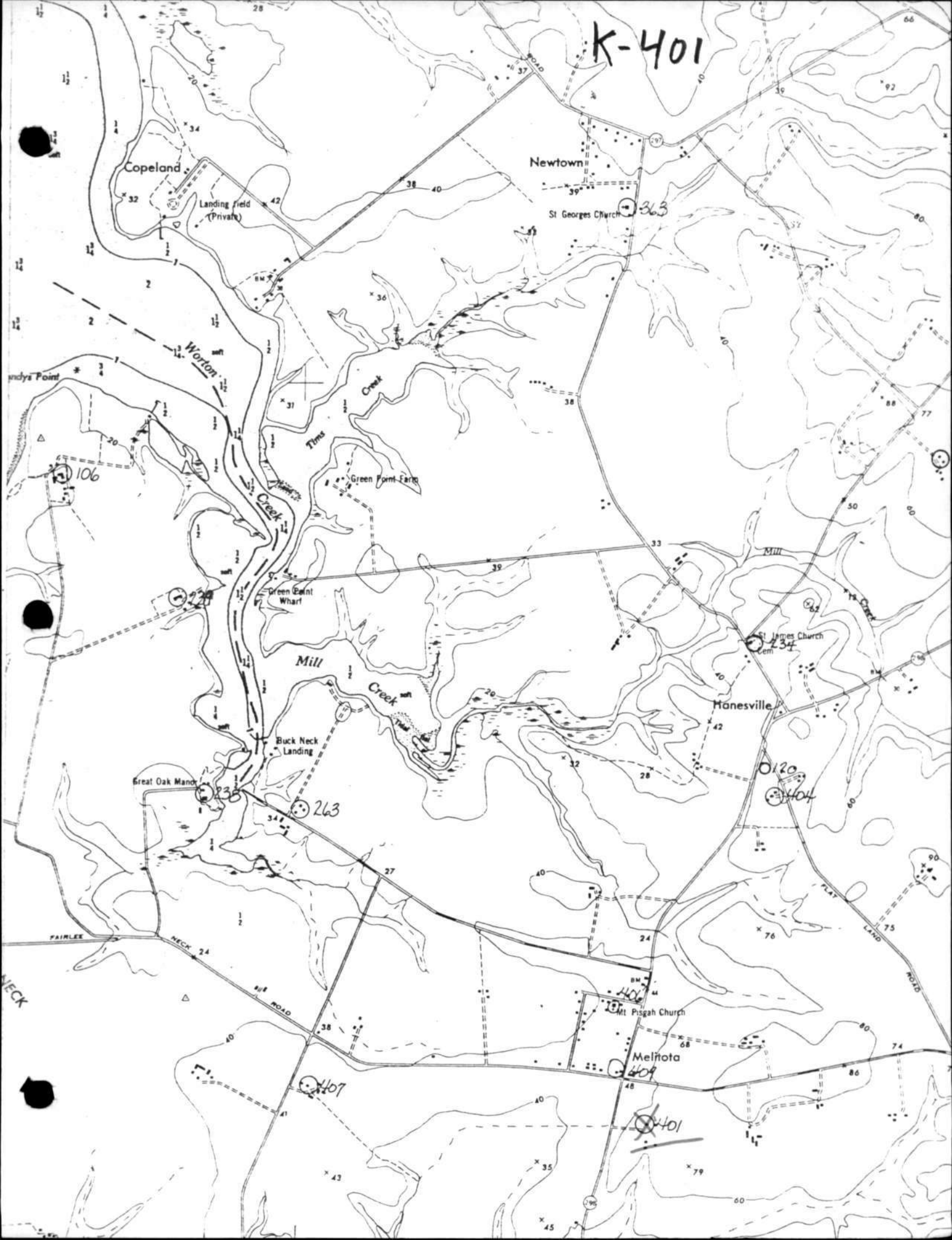
Davis Gamble had willed the property to his granddaughter Jane E.S. Gamble who married William W. Stephens. She died leaving the farm to her daughters.

BC 5
274

TO: Davis Gamble
FROM: Starling Thomas
DATE: June 1, 1808

The 250 acres where the house stands plus other property.

K-401





K-401

Stephens Farm

view to East

Melittota

J. Tyler Campbell
FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHY
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

Kent County

JAN 15 1980

M.L. Fritz

3/1980